

THE RESTORATION OF MAN

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Outline #34

Chpt. 20: TOUCHING SIN - REFERENCE: GEN 2:17 (Duffy, p. 92)

Start Here 1 October 2020 - Review - Touching Sin

Principles of Discipling - Chpt 21

1. What is Tough Love according to God's Word?

Chastening

Some Christians do not think of chastening any other way except by sickness and disease. They believe they are being chastened when sick and yet they know nothing in particular that they have done. The facts below prove that when God actually allows plagues there is a reason which will be known to the individual or nation. God never uses drastic means except as a last resort, when all other methods of getting men to obey have been exhausted. Lev. 26 and Dt. 28 are clear chapters on this point. In Job 33:14-29 we have the cause of sickness in many cases.

If a child of God wants to claim he is being chastened by God, then let him acknowledge also that he has repeatedly refused to listen to God or obey Him (Job 33). Let him acknowledge his sins, for God does not send plagues upon obedient children. They are given promises of healing and protection from plagues if they will but appropriate them (Ex. 15:26; Ps. 91; 103:3; Mt. 7:9-11; 17:20; 21:22; Mk. 9:23; 11:22-24 Jn. 14:12-15; 15:7,16; 1Pet. 2:24; 2Jn. 1:2; Jas. 5:14-16). Only those who sow will reap and only those who rebel will be cursed (Gal. 6:7-8 Job 33:14-29 Lev. 26; Dt. 28).

On the other hand, Christians are subject as much as sinners to contagious diseases or certain physical maladies, through improper nutrition, exercise, and improper care of the body. They are also subject to satanic attacks, and if they do not learn to claim the promises and resist Satan they may become physically afflicted like other men (Jas. 4:7; 1Pet. 5:7-9 Eph. 4:27; 6:10-18).

One thing is certain, God is not to blame for sicknesses upon His obedient children and to claim such is to cooperate with Satan and not God (Jn. 10:10; Lk. 13:16; Acts 10:38). If people use Job as an excuse for unbelief, let them realize that Job did not know the gospel. He had no written revelation, covenant, or promise, and yet he was healed by God. Let people likewise fight as Job did until they get an answer and healing (Job 42:10; Jas. 5:10-11).

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Would any earthly father chasten or train a child through cancers, tumors, or innumerable sicknesses and diseases? Would this demonstrate true fatherhood, as Jesus taught of God in Mt. 7:7-11 Lk. 11:9-13? What earthly parent would allow a child to suffer physically if he could help it? Shall we say that God is the only Father who loves to see His children sick? How could He love them much more than earthly parents if He were this kind of being? Are sicknesses the only method God has for training His children?

Eight reasons when and why God chastises:

1. When people refuse to hear (Job 33)
2. When they commit iniquity (2Sam. 7:14)
3. When people provoke God (Ps. 6:1; 38:1)
4. When they forsake God (Ps. 89:30-32)
5. When people refuse to judge themselves (1Cor. 11:32)
6. When they stubbornly rebel (Dt. 11:2-6 Lev. 26:14-31 Num. 14)
7. When people sow to the flesh (Gal. 6:7-8)
8. When His children need instruction and correction (Heb. 12:5-10 Rev. 3:19)

*****End Review; Start here for 1 Oct 2020.*** (Chpt 21)**

2. Work on Your Own Seed: When a parents look into the eyes of their children, regardless of where they are in their lives and what they are going through. The parents sees themself in the children. Furthermore, you must remember that your seed is your generation and part of your lineage. "What you see is what you get, or should I say, it is what you got!" Therefore, do not stand in judgment with your children, because you are looking at yourself. "Get busy fixing yourself and God will do the work on your seed. If 'you' have refused to obey your own parents, dishonored that relationship or don't regard their counsel as being from God, then repent and get to work obeying them and listening to God through them. Work prayerfully and creatively in honoring them. Now, fathers are the masters of the seed you produce. If you are concerned for your children's safety, they your asp have to initiate and responsibility for instilling in them a correct attitude toward authority." (Duff, p. 102).
3. Having the Right Attitude: Your attitude is the product of the condition of your spirit. In other words, if your attitude is wrong, negative, then your spirit have been tainted. The only way to correct a tainted spirit is to repent of your sins. Furthermore, if you want to correct your attitude, you must remove your self, from what we call "Soot Sin." Now if you have not been following and studying this lesson you will have the "Deer in the Headlights look" and not know or understand the analogy of what is being told to you. Nevertheless, let's Segway int "Soot Sin."
4. Soot Sin: Remember that we talked about Soot Sin

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There is an interesting demonstration which you can do to illustrate this with your children. Take a piece of clean glass and in the view of your children, hold it over a lighted candle about even with the top of the flame. In a few seconds it will become covered with lampblack, (i.e., soot, essentially pure carbon.)

Now ask your children(or students) if they would like to try to touch the soot on the glass so lightly that they don't get any on their finger. They will all be fascinated and want to try. Let them try it. Over and over. They will never fail to pick up some of the soot on the end of their finger.

Now ask them to try to get rid of the soot by rubbing it off onto their other fingers and see what happens. They will observe that the soot doesn't wipe away. It spreads.

Sin is the same way. We cannot touch it without getting contaminated. And it spreads. It is true that God has a process for changing soot(carbon) into pure diamond. But it involves incredible temperatures and pressures. He can also work sin for good(Rom. 8:28) in the lives of those who love Him, but it involves incredible amounts of heat and pressure. After that the diamond must still go to the master jeweler to be cut with a hammer and chisel. This is hard on the poor diamond! God has enough of this to do in our lives, anyway, without our aggravating the situation by deliberately touching more soot! Let's teach our children to stay away from sin! (Duff, p. 100)

5. Parents' Orders from God to Raise their Children right: Parents are commanded, ordered to bring their children up in the "Discipline and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 5:4)
6. Parents must Overcome: Parents must learn to overcome and deal with their own issues before they can deal with their children. Remember that the reap what you sow. In other words, your children are your seed and they came from you and your wife, or in this day and age, you significant other as they call it today.

Fathers must raise their children up in the statutes of the Lord: (Duff, p. 105)

...We sense that this is a portion of the meaning given in the book of Ephesians 6:4 in the admonition to fathers to bring up their children in the "discipline and instruction of the Lord." We know from the scripture that the Lord Jesus Christ took our suffering onto Himself that we might be spared from death and the ravages of sin and to be reconciled with the Father. This is the same type of discipline and instruction that we are to accomplish with our children. Children are to see Jesus in their earthly father, the priest of the family. It is useful to spend a few moments on realizing more fully why sin in the world is so rampant; why it so multiplies and amplifies itself in our lives and around us. It is because there are so few sin-bearers or "sin-swallowers". Since the natural man always insists that the consequences of sin must return and fall solely upon the one whose "fault" it is, he is always engaged in active efforts to help the

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consequences of sin find their way to their "proper home". Ownership of sin becomes a huge rag." "...the one being disciplined, and only this approach enables fallen man to learn how to love with God's love. We sense that this is a portion of the meaning given in the book of Ephesians 6:4 in the admonition to fathers to bring up their children in the "discipline and instruction of the Lord." We know from the scripture that the Lord Jesus Christ took our suffering onto Himself that we might be spared from death and the ravages of sin and to be reconciled with the Father. This is the same type of discipline and instruction that we are to accomplish with our children. Children are to see Jesus in their earthly father, the priest of the family.

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This all stops when someone enters the scene who is willing to take the sin onto himself. Eventually, if its effects are not to continue forever, the sin must be "swallowed". The consequences must be paid by somebody and the account closed. (Duff, pp. 105)

Moses Interceded for the Children of Israel: (Duff, Chpt. 21, p. 106). Fathers must intercede for their wayward children and please the Blood of Jesus over their lives, that they will submit to the will of God.

Moses exemplified the person who takes a position of intercession on behalf of others in taking the consequences of their sins upon himself. When in the wilderness and informed of the sin of the people, Moses took the position that God should spare Israel rather than destroy them (Exod. 32:10). After pleading that God's reputation depended on sparing the people, Moses went further and took the position that if God could not spare the people of Israel, He should also take Moses' name out of the book of life. Moses probably did not know that such a position was unassailable; in his willingness to share the same consequences as the rest of the people, though he was innocent, Moses perhaps really thought that his request would be answered accordingly. He was

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probably unaware that he was representing the attitude of Christ, who would be our sin bearer, and that he would similarly (to Christ) be resurrected from this "death". We must have the same attitude in our willingness to share with those for whom we are responsible the consequences of their sin. Any attitude that is short of God's standards falls short of the glory of God and is therefore sin(Rom 3:23). Hence, we must recognize that a willingness to shoulder the consequences of another's sin is an inherent attitude necessary for rendering Godly judgment. We are to judge as He instructed us, "... not according to appearance, but with righteous judgment."(John 7:24). Following Jesus' example, this is accomplished by "sin-bearing"; i.e., getting "into the bathtub", so-to-speak, as Jesus did with us, to accomplish the job of washing off the grime of sin that has soiled someone else's life. In the midst of this we will also experience personal resurrection and see the glory of God. (Duff, Chpt. 21, pp. 105 - 106)

Examples of Discipline - Chpt. 22 Fords - *Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of discipline will remove it far from him. (Proverbs - 22:15)*

7. *Raising a Child on Theory or (Fact, Truth - (God's Word))*: - "Theory is great, but what about application? Following are some examples that illustrate some principles by which the disciplinarian may share in the consequences of sin in a manner to bring children up in "the discipline and instruction of the LORD"(Eph. 5:4) as discussed in the previous chapter. These lessons did not come easily." (Duff, Chpt. 22, p. 107)

Children must be raised according to the word of God and not on Theory. Remember, Theory is nothing more than an educated guess as to what you think. In other words, this is your Hypothesis. Children are not your experiment, they are a Blessing of God and should be taken for serious and not for granted.

Deception Learned in the Home from Parents:

The children developed increased levels of deception to circumvent the guidelines and many attempted remedies proved unsuccessful. Discipline accompanied with evident grief by the father, explanations of the consequences of sin, prayer with the children, reward and punishment, etc., and explanation of the reasons for restrictions upon television were repeated many times with no lasting effect. Cheating and deceit became rapidly developing traits of the eldest child. After much prayer, and with great regret, the parents came to realize that only by their participation in the consequences of the sin of the children could the lesson be effectively taught. (Duff, Chpt. 22, p. 107)

Lesson on Obesity learned from the Father (Duff, Chpt. 22, p. 108-109):

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In another instance, it was discovered that intemperance in eating by one of his children was traceable to a root in the father. It did not reflect itself in overweight, but was there nonetheless. As years of futility in attempting to help the son gain control of his weight stretched out into additional years, it also became an object of intense prayer. The Lord revealed that no power would be provided to help the son with his problem of intemperate eating until it was repented of and disciplined in the life of the father. Hence, in this case, the father's participation in the discipline became the means of delivering his son from an aspect of the "law of the generations". A spirit of intemperance was held accountable. In this case, no words were ever spoken to the son regarding the father's repentance and the father became the sole participant in the discipline. The son was delivered from intemperance in overeating without another word being said or any other eating discipline ever being administered since that day!

There have been a few other occasions where the father's voluntary forsaking of his own meal at the same time his son is experiencing the same discipline have proved very effective in illustrating that an underlying spiritual battle is involved. It is an extension of discipline which boys, especially, understand! The father's voluntary willingness to go without food for the sake of the disobedience of his son speaks eloquently of the grief of the father. At the same time it refines and disciplines the mind and spirit of the father in seeking God's answers to the problems being confronted. (Duff, Chpt. 22, p. 108-109).

Reconciliation with Fathers - (Chpt 23, p. 113). *"Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their sins against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.We beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." - (II Corinthians 5:17-20)*

8. Reconciliation with Fathers:

The basic problem of the universe is "father-rejection", the broken relationship between children and their Father. Earthly father as well as Heavenly Father. The former is a reflection of the latter. The father - child is the most commonly broken relationship among men, reflecting the truth of the broken relationship between man and his Heavenly Father. This is what Jesus came to solve. Even among believers, the reconciliation of relationship between children and their earthly fathers remains difficult and too long unaddressed. What should bring shouts of rejoicing, "hallelujah!", brings from many men only a groan and tight-lipped certitude that "no one could be reconciled with my father!" Ha! Reconciliation with God means reconciliation with The Father and it is intended

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to include our earthly fathers, too. Praise God! God wants us all to be reconciled and our fathers are at the head of His list. When reconciliation breaks out, God highlights that the centerpiece is fathers and, furthermore, that this will mark the end of the age! The last verse in the Old Testament reads, "And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse." (Malachi 4:6) Our earthly fathers are the closest earthly facsimile to our heavenly Father for the major illustrations of the New Testament (Matt. 6:9, Luke 15:11-32, Heb. 12:7-10, etc.) Our progress at fellowship with God will remain especially stunted until we establish a right relationship through reconciliation with our earthly fathers.

The responsibility is ours, not our fathers'. Children are commanded to honor their parents, not the other way round. Furthermore, our well-being is tied to it. As Paul said, "...the first commandment with a promise. That it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth." (Eph. 6:2-3)

9. **Forgiveness:** Men are notoriously poor in asking for forgiveness. It is especially hard to humble oneself before your own father because you have inherited so many traits from him. You know him thoroughly and dislike every one of his traits that has been passed on to you (Rom. 2:1-3) But asking forgiveness is hard in most instances, anyway, and so some special instruction is useful. The following points should be applied:

- a) Prepare. Pray for God to free you from deception and to show your specific sins in a fashion that will enable you to confess and take responsibility for them. This is not "eyewash"! This is service and reconciliation as unto the Lord. Ask Him for humility and grace.

- b) Rehearse your apology, word for word, with another witness. Another witness can scrutinize your spirit for compromise and the presence of deceiving spirits which would keep you from a full confession of sin and responsibility. For the same reasons, it is best to write it down oneself even before this. Working with a witness also helps to maintain steadfastness of purpose (by increasing our accountability to another person) and follow-through. The prodigal son rehearsed his statement of repentance to his father word for word, beforehand.

- c) Make no reference whatsoever to anything the other person (father) has done to you, either directly or by inference. Forgive that beforehand. If you find it difficult, write the offenses down on a separate piece of paper, forgive them and close the account by asking God to also forgive them and close the account in heaven (Matt. 18:18, John 20:23). Then burn the statement of offense and never bring it up again. "Love does not keep an account of wrongs suffered." (1 Cor. 13:5)

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d) Be specific in stating your own offenses which God has impressed upon you and be specific in asking for forgiveness. (Duff, Chpt. 23, pp, 115 - 116)

Letter to Dad

"Dear Dad,

*I am writing this letter so that all that is important will be said. I am not sure I would get *Excellent and comprehensive instruction, testimony and scriptural insight on this subject is offered by Bill Gothard and the Institute in Basic Life Conflicts(Box 1; Oak Brook, Illinois 60521) everything in the proper order and all that is on my heart said, if I talked with you face to face first.*

Dad, God has convinced me that I've been a poor son to you and failed to honor you as I should. I know for a fact that when I was young, I always thought that you were wrong when you were giving me advice or direction, so I always disobeyed you or counted your advice as worthless. I know now that you were right most of the time, but I never benefited from it because of my rebellion.

God calls my rebellion sin. I'm convinced that God is right and I have suffered because I never listened to you. I know also that you have tried your best to be a good father to me and I've never shown any appreciation for that. I'm grateful that God gave me you as my father and I want to be a better son. I'm also grateful that you never punished me as I really deserved. Will you forgive me?

If you have anything you want to share with me, I am ready and willing to listen and take your advice from here on out. I love you with all my heart, (Richard)

Hear the Holy Spirit! Praise God for His grace and forgiveness. This first step produced a powerful change in that relationship and further growth in Christ that has enriched Richard's life and strengthened other important relationships in his life, as well. If other men can't do better after an appropriate period of effort, they wouldn't do badly to use this letter as a model! (Duff, Chpt. 23, pp 116).